

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

BUREAU OF STANDARDS

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UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT MASTER SPECIFICATION FOR
PERCALE

FEDERAL SPECIFICATIONS BOARD SPECIFICATION No. 556

This specification was officially promulgated by the Federal Specifications Board on May 22, 1928, for the use of the departments and independent establishments of the Government in the purchase of percale.

[The technical requirements of this specification shall become mandatory for all departments and independent establishments of the Government not later than August 22, 1928. They may be put into effect, however, at any earlier date after promulgation]

CONTENTS

	Page
I. General specifications.....	1
II. Grade.....	1
III. Material.....	1
IV. General requirements.....	2
V. Retail requirements.....	2
VI. Method of sampling and tests.....	2
VII. Packing and marking of shipments.....	2
VIII. Notes.....	3

I. GENERAL SPECIFICATIONS

United States Government general specifications for textile materials (methods of physical and chemical tests), Federal Specifications Board specification No. 345, in effect on date of invitation for bids, shall form a part of this specification wherever applicable.

II. GRADE

The grade shall be that known commercially as first quality.

III. MATERIAL

The material shall be made of cotton thoroughly cleaned and free from waste. It shall be as free as practicable from avoidable imperfections of manufacture.

IV. GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

See Detail requirements, Section V.

V. DETAIL REQUIREMENTS

1. **FINISH.**—The material shall be bleached and printed to the required shade or pattern. The sizing shall not exceed 3 per cent. The material may be very lightly calendered or uncalendered. Patterns will be selected from the sample books of the contractor.

2. **WEAVE.**—The weave shall be plain.

3. **WIDTH.**—The width shall be 36 inches. A tolerance of plus or minus one-fourth inch will be permitted.

4. **LENGTH OF BOLT OR ROLL.**—Any commercial length over 35 yards will be acceptable unless otherwise specified.

5. **WEIGHT.**—The weight per square yard shall be 3.1 ounces. A tolerance of minus $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent and plus 5 per cent will be permitted.

6. **THREAD COUNT.**—The threads per inch shall be 85 in the warp and 72 in the filling directions. A minus tolerance of 3 threads and any plus tolerance will be permitted.

7. **BREAKING STRENGTH.**—The minimum breaking strength (grab method) shall be 45 pounds in the warp and 30 pounds in the filling directions.

8. **FASTNESS OF DYE.**—The color shall show good fastness to light and washing.

VI. METHOD OF SAMPLING AND TESTS

1. **SAMPLING.**—Not less than one sample at least 1 yard long by the width of the material shall be taken from each 1,000 yards or fraction thereof, except where the shipment is 10,000 yards or more, in which case a sample from each one-tenth of the shipment shall be taken for test purposes.

2. **TESTING.**—Federal Specifications Board specification No. 345, for textile materials (methods of physical and chemical tests), will apply except that the tests on 1-yard samples for width and weight shall not be used alone as a basis for rejection, but if a dispute arises regarding weight, the weight in yards per pound shall be determined from the actual yardage and the actual weight of the entire bolt.

VII. PACKING AND MARKING OF SHIPMENTS

Shall be in accordance with the best commercial practice unless otherwise specified.

VIII. NOTES

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